



Soldiers Communications.

NATIONAL MILITARY HOME,
NEAR DAYTON, MONTGOMERY CO., OHIO.
October 18, 1880.

MR. EDITOR: In compliance with your request, I will endeavor to give a few statistics regarding the "Central Branch" of "The National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers." Not having been an inmate quite two years, and having been so unfortunate as to fracture both limbs in three places, each in a fall while in an attack of epilepsy, (which I contracted while in the United States service,) it renders me incapable of getting about with alacrity and investigating as thoroughly the innumerable blessings and pleasures with which our beneficent Government has surrounded us, as one might be capable of who was less afflicted than myself; however, I will endeavor to give you a little idea of our pleasant surroundings.

In March, 1865, Congress authorized the establishing of this Home, near Dayton, Ohio. A farm of 540 acres was purchased, about three miles west of the city, on a prominence from which you can see the city and the rich fertile valley of the Miami, so well known for its beauty and salubrity. Additional purchases since made of adjoining land have increased the Home to nearly double its original dimensions. It is enclosed by a high fence, with gates at entrances, calculated to prevent the indiscriminate absence of the inmates, although those of ordinarily good behavior can, without trouble, procure passes to go to the city, or furloughs to visit their homes and friends. The census taken in September, 1879, gave the following figures: Inmates in barracks, 3,023; in hospital, 312; absent on furloughs, 763; total, 4,098. The increase in the intermediate time has undoubtedly been 500 or more. There are twenty-six barracks, each three stories high, size twenty-five by one hundred feet, containing forty persons to each floor; seven of the barracks are of brick, and have been built within the past three years; the remainder are good substantial frame buildings. The sleeping arrangements are excellent; the bedsteads in use are the single iron ones; abundance of good blankets, a tick, pillows, sheets and pillow-slips for each, which are changed weekly. Each inmate must take a bath on Saturday and put on clean clothing. The dining hall is an immense three-story brick building with table accommodations for eleven hundred persons, overhead of which are arranged barracks. The food furnished is of the best and most substantial character, and many of the delicacies.

The hospital is a large and commodious brick of three stories, with two wings attached; it contains seven wards, each accommodating forty invalids; besides in the building is a dining-room, kitchen, public hall, drug-store, waiting rooms, surgeon's office, chief wardmaster's matrons and various other offices; near by are two other wards for invalids, a department for insane, &c.

The headquarters or business department is a fine, large brick containing the principal business offices of the Home, overhead of which is a reading-room the full size of the building, containing the immense "Putnam Library," donated to the institution by Mary L. Putnam, mother of General Putnam; also the Thomas Library. About fifty feet north of headquarters stood "Memorial Hall," a fine brick, capable of seating 2,500 persons; it was destroyed by fire about a year since, but Congress has graciously donated \$10,000, and it is rapidly being rebuilt upon the same spot.

About fifty feet north from this stands a beautiful stone church, of the Gothic pattern, surmounted by a fine tower stretching heavenward, in which is a large clock, plainly designating the hour from all sides; there is also a large bell for calling the worshippers together, that was cast from artillery captured from the enemy during our "late unpleasantness."

There is also a building the same size as barracks used for quarter-master's stores; also another used as a store; another as a post-office, besides numerous other buildings and fine residences, which are the homes of the officers, chaplain, farmer, &c.

The inmates of the Home are, of course, a promiscuous gathering coming from every loyal State in the Union, of all nations, tongues, sizes, shapes, colors and ages. The requirements for admission are, first, an honorable discharge from the United States Army or Navy; second, disability by wounds received or sickness incurred in the line of duty. One wishing to become an inmate should write to Gen. M. R. Patrick, Governor of the Home, who will send him a blank application, which should be filled out as directed and returned to him. If he is admitted he will be notified and tickets of transportation sent him. The object in view appears to be to provide all the comforts of a home, chapels for religious service, halls for concerts and lectures, hospitals, experienced surgeons and nurses, comfortable clothing, libraries, reading-rooms, schools, amusements, telegraph offices, work-shops, farm-

ing, &c. Those desiring and who are able are given labor and remunerative pay therefor. It is given to those desiring it ample facilities for preparing themselves for active employment of many kinds.

Those desiring to become inmates should not be impressed with the idea that they are in a hospital or an almshouse, but a *bona fide* home, where subsistence, care, education, religious instruction and amusements are provided for disabled soldiers by the Congress of the United States, to be paid for from the "forfeiture and fines of deserters from the army." The providing for us is thus deprived of the humiliating feature of charity.

The Home gardens are laid out in the most tasty and beautiful manner, their effect being greatly heightened by finely constructed fountains and fish-ponds, containing gold fish and other specimens of the finny tribe. The flower-beds contain the choicest of flowers, and the richest and rarest found anywhere. The menagerie, though not extensive, is well worthy of attention. The cemetery is in a grove shaded by tall trees, where the brave veterans are laid; a headstone designating the name and number of the regiment to which he belonged is placed at the grave. The graves are arranged in long regular lines, with a mounted cannon in the centre. A short distance from the graves stands a noble monument erected to the memory of the fallen braves.

Taking this Home upon a whole, it far surpasses in comfort and beauty anything of which the mind of man can conceive. To a grateful heart it is impossible to say that "Republics are ungrateful."

Yours very truly,

VOLUNTEER.

Money for Soldiers.

It affords us much pleasure to learn that our soldier friends are now receiving considerable funds from the Pension Office. This money will bring cheer and comfort to many hearts and homes. The following letters which have been shown us establish the fact:

TYSON FURNACE, VERMONT.
October 8, 1880.

MR. G. E. LEMON, Esq.:
DEAR SIR: I received my pension money. I got \$351.95. Please accept my warmest thanks for your services.
Very respectfully yours,

JAS. W. McDERMOTT.

APTON, IOWA, Sept. 2, 1880.

MR. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I received of pension money \$825.67, and for your untiring efforts to secure my money accept my hearty thanks.
Yours,

A. M. VANA.

REDFORD, N. Y., October 13, 1880.

GEORGE E. LEMON, Esq.,
Washington D. C.:
DEAR SIR: Many thanks for your services as attorney in my claim for original invalid pension. I have received from the Hon. Commissioner of Pensions a certificate dated October 1, 1880, granting me a pension. The amount being \$1,000.20. I am gratefully
Yours,

ICHABOD HAMBLIN.

LA CROSSE, WIS., Sept. 29, 1880.

MR. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I have just received \$121 on my first payment of pension, and feel great gratitude for your pushing my case through. Yours truly,

AMANDA M. PAINE.

ROSE HILL, JASPER COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

October 18, 1880.

MR. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: With pleasure I inform you that I have received a Pension Office check for \$1,708.40. I understand that the Commissioner pays you \$10 fee. Accept a thousand thanks for your services in receiving me the amount named.
Yours very respectfully,

SARAH A. PERRINE.

EATON, OHIO, Sept. 10, 1880.

GEORGE E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I have received my pension money, amounting to \$1,707.75. For your services in obtaining the same please accept my most sincere and heartfelt thanks. I remain
Very truly yours,

JOHN H. BLOOM.

JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS.

October 19, 1880.

HON. GEORGE E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: Through your untiring efforts for seventeen months past I have at last received my pension certificate and check from the Pension Agent at St. Louis, Missouri, amounting to \$782.67. Many thanks, my dear friend.
Yours truly,

WILLIAM E. TOWNIER.

DECATUR, INDIANA, Oct. 25, 1880.

MR. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I received on my first payment of pension \$1,070 and am very thankful for your energetic and successful efforts to get me my money. Yours sincerely,

JOSEPH HELM.

MIDVALE, PASSAIC COUNTY, N. J.

October 24, 1880.

G. E. LEMON, Esq.:
DEAR SIR: I was gratefully surprised by receiving a note from you that my claim for pension is allowed. If my gratitude is of any value please receive it for your kindness and prompt attention to my case. I received the pension voucher the same day for \$234.47. Yours truly,

J. POWELL.

APPLETON CITY, MISSOURI.

October 4, 1880.

Capt. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I have received my pension of \$542.70. I am well pleased with the way you have conducted my case.

WM. H. TEST.

LOCKLAND, OHIO, October 23, 1880.

Capt. G. E. LEMON:
Through your kind and continued efforts I have received my pension money, \$709.87. Please accept my heartfelt thanks.
Your true friend,

SPENCER YOUNG.

EAST JEWETT, GREENE COUNTY, N. Y.

October 26, 1880.

GEORGE E. LEMON, Esq.:
DEAR SIR: Through your hard and never-faltering work for the benefit of the soldiers I received last week a check for \$1,376.07. You have my sincere thanks for your getting my long-delayed pension claim through, and in doing this I very highly appreciate your valuable services.
Yours very gratefully,

HENRY S. DISTIN.

LEISTVILLE, PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO.

November 2, 1880.

MR. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I have received my pension money through your able efforts. I get \$228.67. Accept my best wishes for your health and happiness. Yours truly,

JOHN BURNS.

ROCHESTER, MINN., November 3, 1880.

Capt. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I have just received my pension money—\$772—and greatly thank you for your able efforts in securing it for me.
Yours truly,

JOHN Q. EVANS.

CHENOA, McLEAN COUNTY, ILL.

October 17, 1880.

MR. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I have the honor to answer yours of the 23d ult., which came like the Angel of Peace in the dark hour of despair. May God bless you for your faithful labors. I was absent from home when my papers came to Chenoa. My wife informed me of the good news. I commenced this prosecution seven or eight years ago, with considerable trouble, expense, and no success until you took charge of my case. The amount I received was \$364. I remain,
Yours, very respectfully,

JACOB BATRIM.

LEESVILLE CROSS-ROADS, CRAWFORD CO., OHIO.

November 4, 1880.

Capt. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I received \$504.40 for pension, for which you have my sincere thanks for what you have done for me.
Your friend,

J. B. CARPENTER.

BOXVILLE, UNION COUNTY, KY.

November 2, 1880.

MR. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: Please accept my thanks for your persistence and final success in securing my pension money, amounting to \$781.87.
Yours respectfully,

JOHN HARRISON.

LONGMONT, COLORADO, Nov. 8, 1880.

Capt. G. E. LEMON, Washington, D. C.:
DEAR SIR: I have received my pension, amounting to \$1,140. less your attorney fees. I thank you for your kindly efforts and way of conducting my claim and securing the amount stated.
Yours, as ever,

JAMES A. STUETS.

GLADE, PA., November 12, 1880.

MR. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I have received a check from the Pittsburgh Pension Agent as my first payment, \$719.86. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your kindness in filing my papers.
Yours, with respect,

SAMUEL C. BRIDGUM.

SENECA, KANSAS, November 12, 1880.

Capt. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: Please accept my warm gratitude for the kindness you have done me in getting my pension money, the total amount or which is nearly \$1,700.
Your friend and fellow-soldier,

JOSEPH GUPPY.

EMPORIA, DAVIESS COUNTY, MISSOURI.

November 15, 1880.

MR. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I have received my pension check for \$1,879.86, and now give you my sincere thanks for your untiring perseverance in the collection of my claim.
Yours respectfully,

LEVI CHUTE.

PARIS, EDGAR COUNTY, ILL.

November 7, 1880.

MR. G. E. LEMON:
DEAR SIR: I received a check from the pension-agent at Chicago for \$802.33, after deducting your fee, and I have already bought me a little home. Accept my heartfelt thanks for the able manner in which you have prosecuted my claim.
Yours, with great respect,

ALFRED H. HEMPHILL.

Soldiers' Enquiries.

John H. Ishmael, of Beetown, Grant County, Wisconsin, desires to learn present address of Dr. Preston, who was surgeon of the 6th Wisconsin Volunteers.

T. J. McGinnis, of Fort Worth, Texas, wishes to learn present address of following officers, formerly of Company E, 5th New York Artillery: Capt. James Crane, First Lieutenant William C. Jacobson, First Lieutenant Joseph Murray, Second Lieutenant William Wines.

I would like to know the address of Lieutenant Corilla, of Company I, 7th West Virginia Regiment Infantry. Address Dr. Stoffer Accident, Garrett County, Maryland.

M. M. Boyer, Unionville, Iowa, desires the post-office address of Capt. Charles A. Cameron, formerly of Company G, 39th Iowa Infantry Volunteers, or any member of said company.

Martin G. Geyer, (known on the rolls as Martin Gier) of Washington, Daviess County, Indiana, would like to hear from any member of the Alton Battery of 144th Illinois Volunteers, especially Capt. Moore, of Company I, 144th, and Louis Harbill and Dennis Dunn of said Regiment.

J. J. F. Mayne, of Pittsboro', Calhoun County, Mississippi, desires address of Capt. Z. C. Bedford, or any of the members of Company K, 15th Illinois Volunteers.

Alex. Douglas, 255 Carroll Street, Akron, Ohio, desires address of any of his comrades of Company C, 7th Illinois Cavalry.

H. A. Phillips, No. 843, Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, wishes post-office address of Dr. Keasby, late surgeon 2d D. C. Volunteers, also of Edward Fitzgerald, Company D, 5th U. S. Infantry; was in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1863.

Wm. M. Henry, of Alum Well, Hawkins County, Tennessee, desires present address of Capt. Lafayette Coyle, late of Company I, 3d Tennessee Cavalry.

George L. O'Bannon, of Cromwell, Ohio County, Kentucky, desires the address of the surgeon in charge of Hospital No. 1 at Nashville, Tennessee, on the 1st of June, 1864.

Nelson H. Wilson, of Fowler, Clinton County, Michigan, would like present post-office address of Stephen Willenes, John Brown, or any other member of Company E, 55th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers.

William Smith, Waterloo, De Kalb County, Indiana, wishes the post-office address of his comrade, David Beltz, late of Company B, 104th Regiment Ohio Volunteers.

Joel Countryman, of Johnstown, Fulton County, New York, desires address of Captain William A. McCartney, formerly of Co. H, Twenty-second Veteran Reserve Corps.

Madison M. Boyer, Unionville, Iowa, wishes to find address of an officer, or two enlisted men of Co. G, Thirty ninth Iowa Volunteers.

Where are these Soldiers?

Wanted—the present address of Lawrence Burke, formerly private in Company I, 116th Indiana Infantry, also of Charles Morris, formerly private in Company K, 85th Illinois Infantry, also of Henry Congdon, formerly private in Company H, 5th Minnesota Infantry, (last known address Zumbro Falls, Minnesota,) also of Lee Butler, formerly of Company M, 4th New York Volunteers, also of Harrison Downing, (last known address was Mineral Springs, Michigan, since changed to Sand Lake, Michigan,) also of Emanuel Smith, formerly of Company F, 97th New York Volunteers, (who lately resided at Lanoka, Arkansas,) also of Henry O. Shirts, late of Company C, 157th Regiment New York Volunteers.

Address,

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE CO.,
Washington, D. C.